



**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Finance/ Policy, Personnel, & Appointments/Justice & Social Services

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Shields-Carter Meeting Room

Bennett Administrative Center

102 E. Main Street, Urbana, Illinois

MINUTES – Approved as Amended on September 15, 2026

Members Present: Dennise Arres, Jon Cagle, Aaron Esry, John Farney, Jake Fava, Chyna Figueroa-Dixon, Stephanie Fortado, Elly Hanauer-Friedman, Jenny Lokshin, Brett Peugh, Emily Rodriguez, Monique Settles, Ed Sexton, Matt Sullard, Bethany Vanichtheeranont, and Jennifer Locke

Members Absent: Lorraine Cowart, Ben Crane, Jilmala Rogers, William Schoell, Daniel Wiggs and Jeff Wilson

Others Present: Steve Sumemrs (County Executive), Shannon Siders (Probation & Court Services Director), and Megan Robison (Recording Secretary)

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order

Chair Locke called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Agenda/Addenda

MOTION by Mr. Farney to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Arres. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. June 9, 2026 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Ms. Vanichtheeranont to approve the minutes of June 9, 2026; seconded by Ms. Settles. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Input

Cathy Emmanuel, Chair of the Advocates for Aging Care, requested \$1 million from the County Board to support the opening of the skilled nursing facility they are building.

Joan Dixon, Advocates for Aging Care Member, described how this facility will benefit the community, how the requested funds will be used and other requests they have made for financial assistance within the community.

Lori Reynolds, Advocates for Aging Care Member, spoke about the tax levy that was originally for passed to support the County Nursing Home and how much she estimates the County receives from that portion of the tax levy.

Claudia Lenhoff, Healthcare Consumers Executive Director, expressed her support for the Advocates for Aging Care initiative, the need for this facility in the community and how residents believed their taxes would decrease when the Nursing Home closed.

Stuart Levy, Champaign resident, hopes the Board will support Advocates for Aging Care and asked the Board how the County can protect it's self if a data center goes out of business.

Bryana Davis asked how Flock cameras and data centers benefit the community. She believes the cameras are an invasion of privacy, and we need to protect our water supply from the potential issues that caused by the building of a data center.

Lorien Carsey, Urbana resident, urged the Board to keep data centers in Champaign County small in order to protect our natural resources.

Kim Kranich, resident, suggested a referendum for Home Rule that would allow the County to completely ban large-scale data centers.

Gabriel Dunn, announced he is running for County Auditor in 2028, reminded Board Members they represent their district not their party and that there shouldn't be any electioneering on County property.

Nancy Dietrich, of Healthcare Consumers, announced her support for Advocates for Aging Care and spoke in opposition to the building of large-scale data centers.

Janice Sherbert, resident and teacher, shared her plea for a skilled nursing facility in the community and urged the County Board to support Advocates for Aging Care.

Tom Corbin shared how much a smaller community, Piatt County, receives from their tax levy. He asked the County Board to support Advocates for Aging Care.

Michele Olsen, resident, shared her personal experience with the lack of skilled nursing beds in the community and how hard that is when the patient doesn't get to see their family often, due to the distance.

Nancy Yeagle, Advocates for Aging Care Member, listed the work completed by their group, stated the new facility will be run by a board, and they are only requesting a donation form the County.

VI. Communications

Mr. Peugh wished the Advocates for Aging Care the best on getting money from the County, spoke about untrue information that has been shared with the community regarding large-scale data centers, ensured his fellow Democratic members that they will be playing games the next couple months.

Ms. Rodriguez reminded everyone of the upcoming Data Center Activities Task Force meeting where they can comment on the proposed ordinance.

VII. Justice and Social Services

- A. Monthly Reports – All reports are available on each department's webpage through the department reports page
- Animal Control – June & July 2026

- Emergency Management Agency – June & July 2026
- Probation & Court Services – May, June & 2nd Quarter Statistics
- Public Defender – June & July 2026

Received and placed on file.

B. Street College – 6-month Impact Report

Jay Walker shared Street College’s progress report, current work, and outcomes. He detailed some of the feedback they have received from scholars and staff.

Ms. Locke reminded the Board of the history of the Re-Entry funds and how few people were being served previously. Ms. Figueroa-Dixon confirmed that they collaborate with Rise and Novak Schools and they are looking to do more. Ms. Siders described the continuity of services that scholars received with aftercare. Many Board Members expressed their support for this program.

C. Sheriff

1. Resolution Approving an Illinois Emergency Management Mutual Aid System Agreement (IEMMAS)

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving an Illinois Emergency Management Mutual Aid System Agreement; seconded by Mr. Sullard. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED.**

D. Other Business

None

E. Chair’s Report

None

F. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

None

VIII. Finance

A. Budget Amendments/Transfers

1. Monthly General Corporate Budget Amendment Report – July 2026

Information only

2. Budget Amendment BUA 2026/7/364
Fund 1080 General Corporate / Dept 040 Sheriff
Increased Appropriations: \$68,234
Increased Revenue: \$68,234
Reason: Appropriation of insurance reimbursement funds for the purchase of a replacement patrol vehicle.

MOTION by Mr. Sullard to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2026/7/364; seconded by Ms. Figueroa-Dixon. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

3. Budget Amendment BUA 2026/7/453
Fund 1080 General Corporate / Dept 040 Sheriff
Increased Appropriations: \$2,090
Increased Revenue: \$2,090
Reason: Appropriation of proceeds from the calendar collaboration.

MOTION by Mr. Sexton to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2026/7/453; seconded by Mr. Esry. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

4. Budget Amendment BUA 2026/8/30
Fund 2500 County Grant Fund / Dept 075 General County
Increased Appropriations: \$41,166.78
Increased Revenue: \$41,166.78
Reason: Appropriation of additional funds received for the Firearm Safe Storage Strategies grant.

MOTION by Ms. Lokshin to recommend County Board approval of a resolution approving budget amendment BUA 2026/8/30; seconded by Ms. Vanichtheeranont. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

B. Auditor

1. Monthly Reports through June 2025 are available on the Auditor's webpage

Information only

C. Treasurer

1. Monthly Report – May & June 2026 – Reports are available on the Treasurer's webpage

Received and placed on file

2. Resolution Authorizing the Cancellation of the Appropriate Certificate of Purchase on a Mobile Home, permanent parcel 14-019-0002

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of a resolution authorizing the cancellation of the appropriate certificate of purchase on a mobile home; seconded by Mx. Arres. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

3. Resolution Authorizing the County Executive to Assign Mobile Home Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase, permanent parcel 15-025-0844

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution authorizing the County Executive to assign mobile home tax sale certificate of purchase; seconded by Mx. Arres. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

D. County Executive

1. Monthly Accounting Reports – October 2025 through June 2026 – Reports are available on the Executive’s webpage

Information only

2. Available Budget Report – July 2026

Information only

3. FY2025 Audit Update

Information only

E. Other Business

None

F. Chair’s Report

None

G. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

None

IX. Policy, Personnel, & Appointments

A. County Executive

1. Monthly HR Report – June 2026

Received and placed on file

2. Appointments/Reappointments (*italics indicates incumbent*)
 - a. Appointing *Patrick Feeney* to the Kankakee Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - b. Appointing *Johnathan Schroeder* to the Two Mile Slough Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - c. Appointing *Steve Hammel* to the Beaver Lake Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - d. Appointing Henry Nettles to the Sangamon & Drummer Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - e. Appointing *Leon Sieberns* to the Kerr & Compromise Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - f. Appointing *Douglas Zehr* to the Blackford Slough Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - g. Appointing *Larry Dallas* to the Okaw Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - h. Appointing *Travis Fruhling* to the St. Joseph #4 Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
 - i. Appointing *Steven Maddock* to the Willow Branch Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029

- j. Appointing *Leonard Delaney* to the Owl Creek Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029
- k. Appointing *Robert Barker* to the Fountain Head Drainage District, term 9/1/2026-8/31/2029

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Sullard to recommend County Board approval of resolutions appointing Patrick Feeney, Johnathan Schroeder, Steve Hammel, Henry Nettles, Leon Sieberns, Douglas Zehr, Larry Dallas, Travis Fruhling, Steven Maddock, Leonard Delaney and Robert Baker to their respective districts; seconded by Mr. Sexton. Mr. Farney thanked all of these members for their free service to the community. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Mr. Sullard left the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

- l. Appointing *Jerry Heinz* to the Two Mile Slough Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2028
- m. Appointing *Andy Hughes* to the Union Drainage District #1 of Philo & Urbana, term ending 8/31/2028
- n. Appointing Ed Decker to the Wrisk Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2028
- o. Appointing *Steve Stierwalt* to the Okaw Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2028

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of resolutions appointing Jerry Heinz, Andy Hughes, Ed Decker and Steven Stierwalt to their respective districts; seconded by Mx. Arres. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- p. Appointing *Leonard Stocks* to the Owl Creek Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2027
- q. Appointing *Ed Decker* to the Union Drainage District #1 of Philo & Urbana, term ending 8/31/2027
- r. Appointing *Travis Fruhling* to the Union Drainage District #2 of St. Joseph & Ogden, term ending 8/31/2027
- s. Appointing *Richard Peavler* to the West Branch Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2027
- t. Appointing *Kevin Wolken* to the Raup Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2027
- u. Appointing *Joseph Burke* to the Lower Big Slough Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2027
- v. Appointing *Todd Hesterberg* to the Harwood & Kerr Drainage District, term ending 8/31/2027

OMNIBUS MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of resolutions appointing Leonard Stocks, Ed Decker, Travis Fruhling, Richard Peavler, Kevin Wolken Joseph Burke and Todd Hesterberg to their respective districts; seconded by Mx. Arres. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- w. Appointing *Michael Jay Freese Jr.* to the Bailey Memorial Cemetery, term ending 6/30/2032

MOTION by Mr. Farney to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Michael Jay Freese Jr. to the Bailey Memorial Cemetery Association; seconded by Ms. Lokshin. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- x. Appointing Nicole Csiki to the East Lawn Memorial Burial Park, term ending 6/30/2028

MOTION by Ms. Locke to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Nicole Csiki to the East Lawn Memorial Burial Park; seconded by Mr. Sexton. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- y. Appointing *Brooke Mohr* to the Ogden-Royal Fire Protection District, term ending 4/30/2029

MOTION by Ms. Hanauer-Friedman to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Brooke Mohr to the Ogden-Royal Fire Protection District; seconded by Mr. Cagle. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- z. Appointing Stephanie Fortado as the County Board Liaison on the Lincoln Legacy Committee

MOTION by Ms. Locke to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Stephanie Fortado as the County Board Liaison on the Lincoln Legacy Committee; seconded by Mr. Sexton. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

- aa. Currently vacant appointments – full list and information is available on the County’s website

Information only

B. County Clerk

1. Fee Reports
 - June 2026 Report
 - July 2026 Report
 - January-June 2026 Semi-Annual Report

Received and placed on file

C. County Board

1. Lincoln Legacy Committee Annual Report

Received and placed on file

2. Appointing Stephanie Fortado as the Chair of Justice & Social Services

MOTION by Mr. Esry to recommend County Board approval of a resolution appointing Stephanie Fortado as the Chair of Justice & Social Services; seconded by Ms. Rodriguez. Ms. Locke thanked Ms. Fortado for her willingness to step into this position and Ms. Fortado thanked Ms. Rogers for her service in this position previously. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

D. Other Business

None

E. Chair’s Report

None

F. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

IX. A. 2a-z

X. Other Business

Chair Locke reminded the Board members of the work they are creating for County staff by voting no on all agenda items.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Locke adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.